

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10
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FM AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7758
INFO OAMEMBASSY BONN 322
G RUDTC/AMZQBASSY LONDON 1366
AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
USMISSION NATO
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L KHARTOUM 3020

DEPT PASS OAU COLLECTIVE

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PORG, OAU
SUBJECT: OAU ELECTION PROSPECTS

1. INFORMED OAU OBSERVERS ARE TENDING TOWARD CURRENT ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY (OAU) ADMIN SEC GEN WILLIAM ETEKI MBOUMOUA (CAMEROON) TO SUCCEED HIMSELF AS NEXT ADMIN SEC GEN. THESE SOURCES CLAIM THAT CAMEROON PRES. AHIDJO HAS COMMITTED DIPLOMATIC RESOURCES TO ETEKI'S RE-ELECTION FAR SURPASSING THOSE OF OTHER CANDIDATES. CAMEROON AMBASSADOR TO ETHIOPIA AND TO OAU, EL HAJ HAMAN DICKO, HAS LOBBIED EXTENSIVELY IN OAU CAPITALS PAST MONTH ON ETEKI'S BEHALF. LARGE (20-30) AND HIGH-LEVEL CAMEROON DELEGATION ARRIVED IN KHARTOUM JULY 5 TO ASSIST ETEKI'S CAMPAIGN.

2. KENYAN CHARGE IN ADDIS ABABA, ALTHOUGH ACKNOWLEDGING
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ETEKI'S SHORTCOMINGS, ARGUED THAT ETEKI HAS BEEN ABLE TO PAPER OVER CONTROVERSIAL OAU ISSUES AND MAINTAIN MODICUM OF "UNITY" WITHIN OAU. CHARGE ARGUED THAT THIS DID NOT HELP MAKE OAU EFFECTIVE ORGANIZATION, BUT IT DID ALLOW FOR "DIALOGUE" CHANNEL TO REMAIN OPEN BETWEEN MEMBER STATES. FOR THESE REASONS, HE THOUGHT ETEKI WOULD BE RE-ELECTED.

3. ASST. SECS. GEN.- AS PRESENTLY CONSTITUTED, THERE ARE ONLY FOUR ASST. SECS. GEN, BUT THE OAU COMMITTEE ON STRUCTURAL REFORM HAS RECOMMENDED THAT A FIFTH ASG BE ADDED. THE FOUR ASG POSITIONS ARE ALLOCATED ON REGIONAL BASIS WHICH CURRENTLY EXCLUDES SOUTHERN AFRICA, THUS CREATING NECESSITY FOR FIFTH ASG. IT IS POSSIBLE THAT KHARTOUM SUMMIT COULD ELECT FIFTH ASG WITHOUT ADOPTING STRUCTURAL REFORM COMMITTEE'S OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS.

4. ASG FOR POLITICAL DEPARTMENT, DR. PETER ONU (NIGERIA) HAS BEEN NOMINATED FOR RE-ELECTION AND HAS THE SUPPORT OF HIS GOVERNMENT AND WEST AFRICA REGION. IT IS VERY LIKELY ONU WILL BE RE-ELECTED.

5. ASG FOR ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS DEPT., DR. OSSANYA NYNNEGUE (KENYA) HAS ALSO BEEN NOMINATED FOR RE-ELECTION BUT ONLY HAS LUKEWARM SUPPORT FROM HIS GOVERNMENT AND HAS NOT BEEN AGREED TO BY EAST AFRICA REGION AS ITS CANDIDATE. NYNNEQUE WILL BE OPPOSED BY UGANDAN CANDIDATE (UNNAMED) AND COULD WELL LOSE HIS POSITION IN DEVISIVE ELECTION.

6. ASG FOR SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL DEPT., AMB. NOURREDINE DJOUDI (ALGERIA) IS ALSO CANDIDATE FOR RE-ELECTION. HE REPORTEDLY HAS SUPPORT OF HIS GOVERNMENT BUT IS NOT AGREED-TO CANDIDATE OF NORTH AFRICA REGION. HE WILL BE CONFIDENTIAL

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OPPOSED BY EGYPTIAN NOMINEE (NAME UNKNOWN) CURRENTLY SERVING IN GENEVA. THIS POST LIKELY TO BE HOTLY CONTESTED.

7. ASG FOR ADMINISTRATION, FINANCE AND CONFERENCES, KAMANDA WA KAMANDA (ZAIRE), ALTHOUGH CAMPAIGNING FOR SECGEN POSITION, MAY SETTLE FOR ANOTHER FOUR-YEAR TERM AS ASG. HE MAY ENCOUNTER SOME OPPOSITION FROM UN ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA (ECA) OFFICIAL DAVID GANAO (CONGO-B) WITHIN CENTRAL AFRICA REGION. GANAO ALSO REPORTEDLY HAS PERSONAL AMBITIONS FOR SECGEN SPOT, BUT HE TOO WOULD BE HAPPY WITH ASG POSITION. NEITHER KAMANDA NOR GANAO ARE CONSIDERED SERIOUS CONTENDERS FOR OAU SECGEN. IT IS PROBABLE THAT KAMANDA WILL EMERGE AS ASG AGAIN.
BERGUS

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